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FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM Panorama

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SUBJECT Greaney/Adler Interview

MAURY POVICH: Unfortunately, the events in Grenada and Beirut over the last week have kind of dropped down to a lower level or a priority a reaction on, actually, a bill that was passed through the Senate about less than a week ago which put off until April of 1984 the restrictions involving censorship of government officials who have access to highly sensitive classified material from being able to use that in any kind of work or print, book, article, without first clearing it through the government. It was an executive order delivered by the President of the United States. It's the same one, by the way, that had something to do with lie detector tests for current government officials. We're not going to talk about that today. But this is people who want to write books, for instance, and they have knowledge of, documents of very highly -- of a highly sensitive nature. And what happened was that the Senate said, "Okay. We want to take a look at this." And so it's not going to go into being until April of 1984.

With us, John K. Greaney, the Executive Director of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers; Allan Adler, legal counsel for the Center for National Security Studies.

Mr. Greaney, you don't mind this, do you?

JOHN GREANEY: No, I'm very much in favor of it, because we, as an association of former intelligence officers, recognize the need for security. As a matter of fact, in the applications of our members we point out to them that they still have an obligation to protect those things that were classified which they learned during the course of their employment.

I would like to take one exception to the terms you used